Cinti. Times Star
11-1-1957

Editor's Mail Box

This column is intended as a medium for expressing the opinions of our readers. The views expressed are not to be considered those of the TIMES-STAR. Because of space limitations contributors are requested to make their letters as short as possible. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Poverty Causes

To the Editor of the TIMES-STAR

It has become the practice of government to allow poverty, slums and the need for charity to gradually smolder and develop and finally when these forms of poverty are fully ripened then everybody becomes highly alarmed and the various local state and Federal governments together quickly spend billions of dollars of tax money and all the charity organizations flourish and grow large by soliciting large donations which are nothing but a voluntary tax and these millions are spent also. All this well-organized and expensive bureaucratic activity only treats the results of poverty and does not get at the cause.

The causes of poverty, of course, are complex but they all have one common denominator—finances. Behind every charity case is a history of financial chaos and instability. There is an urgent need to give these people proper financial guidance and encouragement and not wait until they have reached the end of their rope.

I predict that if every jobholder in the United States owned his share of American business today, then 50 years from now poverty would completely disappear and no new slums would ever develop in our whole country.

This is not a pipe dream; there is already organized a practical nation-wide plan which can accomplish this. It is the monthly investment plan sponsored by the New York Stock Exchange and its member firms. Under this plan it is possible to buy common stock for as little as $40 every three monhs.

I am trying to interest the city of Cincinnati to make this possible for its employes under the payroll deduction plan. People of vision are invited to support this plan. This is only a beginning.

ORVILLE SIMPSON.
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Berry Support